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OF SVNDRY OTHER

wh. Kennell.

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PARTICVLAR WICKED PLOTS

and cruel, inhumane, perfidious; yea, unna-
turall practises of the Spaniards:

CHIEFLY

AGAINST THE SEVENTEEN PRO-
vinces of the *Netherlands*; yea, before they
took up Armes.

GATHERED

AND TRANSLATED OVT OF
Severall Dutch Writers, as that Revered Divine Gu-
lielmus Bandaitius, in his *Morghen Wecker*, and Emanuel de
Miter, by S. Q. a lover of truth and equity, and an
unfeigned hater of oppression and tyrannie,
the bane of *Common-wealths*.

EXOD. 1. 8. 9. 10.

The new King over Egypt said unto his people, concerning the Israelites,
Gods people; Come on let us deal wisely with them, lest they
multiply.

PSALM. 2. 4. 5.

He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh, the Lord shall have them in
derision.

Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore dis-
pleasure.

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To the Wel-affected indifferent Reader.



Entle Reader, there being so much spoken as thou maist perceiue, by the fore-going Treatise, touching the cruel, inhumane, treacherous, perfidious; yea, unnatural practises of the *Spaniards*, in these parts, and elswhere, which may sufficiently delineate him in his deserved colours, that whosoever beholds him may mourn to see this *Hazael* so to tyrannize over the innocent, and that the Lord should permit, and the earth bear such an unheard of monster; yet notwithstanding much more might be added in sundry other particulars, as the Dutch Chronicles mention, and other Writers haue well set out: amongst which, although I my selfe be a stranger by Nation to them; yet since the time of my abode here, having attained some understanding in the Language, I haue thought fit to adde some further particulars, which in my reading I haue observed, and could adde many more; but my purpose being onely to annex a few things, I wil not enlarge, lest I adde another Treatise. But before I come to what I intend, I haue thought fit having some oversight in the publishing of this Treatise aforegoing, to note by the way, the ill translating of one word, in the 21 folio, it is touching the Princeesse of *Parma*, the Translator termes her a crafty *Queene*, wheras the word beares no such sence in the Dutch, but signifies one that hath a sharp wit to deceiue, as is said of the serpent that beguiled *Eue*. Beside, that that is translated *Embassadour*, speaking of such as were sent from the States to the King, I conceiue to be more fittingly rendred *Messenger*. First, thou art to understand, gentle Reader, that the King of *Spain* was lovingly received here in the 17 Provinces, and a solemn oath was taken on both parts; the King for his part swore to maintain all their Lawes and Priviledges, and they to him all due homage and allegiance: He presently demanded of them a summe of money. wherupon the States did assemble, and collected for him 40 millions

The Dutch word Ghesante signifies indifferently Embassadour or Messenger.

millions of Florines, of *Brabants* mony, to be paid in nine years, and they paid it into his Exchequer; and although it was more then they had paid before to his predecessours, yet upon this he did take great displeasure against them; and, as they write, he for this did hate them to death.

But he pretended this to be the cause of his wroth, because he saw that there were some among them, that did defie the Pope and all his Religion: but that could not be, for the Citie of *Aelst* was as superstitious in that Religion as *Rome* it selfe; for they did persecute the Reformed Religion even unto death: and yet for all that both they; and 170 fair villages that belonged unto them, were by them plundered and spoyled of all their goods, and many of them wounded and tormented for to confesse where their mony was, and many were killed. Thus much by the way.

My scope and chiefe intent, is to shew the first and just cause of the warres in the *Netherlands*; whereby the diligent Reader (not partially affected) may clearly understand, that the *Netherlanders* did not rebelliously take up Armes against a lawful Prince, (as some ignorantly thinke and speake) but justly and religiously defend themselves against a perfidious Tyrant who sought their ruine, by all possible meanes he could, and the subversion of the whole State. A long while they patiently underwent his cruel oppressions, and intollerable vexations, as the Histories clearly manifest; til there was no hope, but either they must become slaues in soule and body, worse then that of *Israel* in *Egypt*, they and theirs for ever, or else be butchered by mercilesse executioners of a cruel Tyrant. This Tyrant having a purpose to innovate all things, to root out the ancient inhabitants, and to frustrate all the Lawes, Customes and Priviledges which himselfe had sworn to maintain, knew not how better to effect his evil ends, then by raising a bloody Inquisition to set over them for their government; which said Inquisition (raised in *Spain*) concluded and pronounced certain Articles, the tenth of February 1568, which were confirmed by the King, the 26 following. Now because it may appear I doe them no wrong in this charge, I will lay down the Articles themselves verbatim.

The most sacred Office of Inquisition so often attempted in the *Netherlands* by his Majestie, and hindered untill this time, shall bee
infi-

The inquisition
was the
4. yeares be-
fore.

instituted and advanced in this manner, which is most expedient.

1 They must perswade the Emperour, being gone astray, and wickedly confederated with heretikes, that hee resigne his kingdomes unto his Sonne, with the whole administration of the Netherlands.

2 That the Emperour with his two sisters, having given over all affaires, leaving the Netherlands, shall retire into Spaine unto Vs, being assured that they shall never returne more to doe any harme.

3 These being dispatcht, we must also draw the king to us, & keep him for ever that he part not, and not suffer any Flemmings to haue access or conference with him.

4 That the King write unto, and command the Clergie of the Netherlands, that with the Inquisition they should accept of 15 new Bishops, the which should be free from all secular jurisdiction, yea in cases of treason.

5 The subjects of the Netherlands through their malice & waywardnesse, will revolt and moue seditions and tumults, pleasing to all but to our companie.

6 The Princes and Noblemen, heads and authouts of those factions, with the subjects, must be taken away, and the others reduced unto reason.

7 They shall hire at our charge theeues and spoilers of Churches and Images, whose offences shall be by all the world imputed to Rebels, by some subtil meanes, and so we shall vanquish them.

8 That all Commerce, Negotiation, Liberties, and Privileges, shall be rooted out, and that all be reduced to extreame povertie, whereby the realme shall be permanent for Vs.

9 No man of all those Countreies (except he be of our faction) shall be held worthy to liue; and finally all to be rooted out: and all Goods, Possessions, Arts, and Trades, and all Ordes to bee taken away, untill there may bee a new Realme, and a new people.

10 In this action the wise and valiant Duke *Alva* shall be employed in person; whereas any other, were he of the blood Royall, or a Prince, shall be of no esteeme: so as being suspect, yea in the smallest matters, they must be dispatcht.

11 No Contracts, Rights, Promises, Donations, Oathes, Privileges, and solemne Assertions of the Netherlands, shall bee of any force for the inhabitants, as being guiltie of high treason.

12 But aboute al we must have an especial care that in these matters of so great weight and moment, wee proceed not violently, but by meanes, by degrees, and that discreetly, to the end the Princes, Nobilitie, and inferiour subjects may mut nie amongst themselves, so that one may persecute, yea execute the other until at last the hangman be executed himselfe. For in all Christendome is there not a Nation more foolish and indiscreet, and whose levitie and inconstancie may sooner be deceived then these Netherlanders, and God punisheth them accordingly.

There were other Articles found in President *Vergas* chamber at *Amwerpe*, and there Printed; and those are more cruel then these.

By these articles and unlimited power of these lawlesse Inquisitors, no man had any assurance of life or goods for a day, but were in danger continually to be called into question, either for the law of their God, or for some work of mercie, which either religion, moral equitie, or the bond of nature called for: or else if they had colour for none of these, they would impose such unreasonable taxations, which if the Cormorants had not their gorges crambed full, they would make prey of all, whether by right or wrong it mattered not. But my purpose being to avoyd prolixitie, and to passe by impertinencies and needlesse repetitions, I wil come to that I intended. In the yeare 1565 a match was concluded for the Prince of *Parma*, and the nuptials were solemnized at *Bruxels*, whither all the Nobilitie and Gentry of the countrey were invited, and accordingly there met of them about foure hundred, who like faithfull *Moses* being grieved to see the daily oppression of their brethren by the hard task-masters of the Inquisition, who not onely robbed them of their goods, but also by inhumane cruelty, and unnaturall butchery, deprived them of their lives, who daily led them as sheepe unto the slaughter: The consideration hereof they joyntly layd to heart, and hereupon (being met upon this occasion) they resolved to present a petition to the Princeesse of *Parma*, which they did the 5 of April next

next following. The Earle of Breedrod delivering the petition, humbly requested a favourable answer. Three dayes after they received this answer, viz. they should send two of their Noblemen to the king, by whom she would write in their behalfe. The Lord of Barlaymont being present, after their departure sayd (*like a flattering Courtier*) they were a company of Rascals and Beggars.

It was concluded that the Marquesse of Bergen, and the Lord of Mountgny should goe into Spain, who humbly presented their suite to the King, but could get no answer in 16 monthes after.

The 26 of August *anno 1566*, the Princesse of Parma sent for the Gentry, telling them she had received letters from the King, containing promise that all should be well, and that the Inquisition should cease. And for the Proclamations they should not be of force, but his Majestie would take such order as they and the State should wel like of. The Princesse also gave them toleration for their Religion, on condition they should not deface, nor break downe the ornaments of the Churches: for, there had been before this time vilde and lewd persons that frequented the meetings of the Reformed; these went into the Papists Churches, stole their silver and what was worth carrying away, and brake down their Images: but the Reformed suspected that this was done by the appointment of the Princesse; neither was their suspicion without good ground, for it is to be seen in the Kings letters, *Art. 7*, that she had order to hire this raskal company to doe this villany, which fact was imputed to the Protestants, to the end that they might not onely be odious there, but also seem guilty, even in the judgment of other Nations; howbeit the offenders were punished with imprisonment, yea, with death, even by the Reformed themselves, who jointly confessed the action unlawful, and were so farre from giving occasion of offence in this nature, that Papist Burgers themselves offered good security that no such thing should be attempted by them. Who then can make any doubt that they were free from having any hand in those outrages laid to them, the very opposites in Religion being Judges, who as appears were willing to undertake for them; now as their faithfulness brought so good effect for their persons, so did the Lord workethat the truth of Religion found many friends likewise, the Lord wondrously prospering the course of Reformation, in so much

*Emanuel de
Mitter sayth,
that in Flan-
ders they
took 50 of
them at one
time, and
hanged 22
and whipped
the rest.*

much that in short space they had in *Flanders* 60 Assemblies, some Churches they themselves builded, but were by Duke *d'Alva* soon cast down, who erected gallowses of them, and hanged them upon them.

The Princeesse of *Parma* also began to entertain souldiers with pretence to apprehend the Church-robbers, but intended indeed to take away the ancient Liberties and Priviledges of the *Netherlanders*, wherfore sending certain companies to *Valencyn*, the inhabitants denyed them entertainment, who for that were proclaimed Rebels the 14 of December, soon after they were besieged, sacked, and many of them put to death.

But before they of *Valencyn* denyed entertainment to the souldiers, the Nobility had received letters out of *Spain*, from the Marquesse of *Bergen*, shewing, that the King was exceedingly incensed against the *Netherlanders*, that he had in the presence of many vowed to be fully revenged of them, though it were with the hazard of all his Countries; that he would make them an example to all the world, and would invite the Pope and Emperour to assist him in this quarrel. Upon the receiv of the letters the Nobility assembled at *Dortmond* to consult what were best to be done, but concluded not any thing, some judging it safest to joyn, and make head to resist his tyrannical fury, other seeking rather to escape by flight.

He pretended it for religion, but his aime was to get their lands and goods.

Now was the Inquisition again brought in contrary to the Lawes and Liberties of the Country, which the King was sworn to maintain, for execution wherof there were appointed 12 Inquisitors, commanding them to receive the Council of *Trent*, these were called, *The bloody Council*, and so they were indeed, which *Rome* well knew, refusing it, anno 1559, when as they fell upon the Inquisitors house, set it on fire, wounded the chiefe of them, brake open the prison, and set at liberty the captives, and would have burned a Cloyster that belonged unto them, had they not been by fair means dissuaded by two Lords in the Citie, viz, *Marc. Antonio Columnus*, and *Julio Cesar*.

Likewise *Venice*, *Naples* and *Millain*, though they be Papists, would not suffer it; the Marchants of *Lisbon* who are as superstitious in the Romish Religion as any in the world, yet they did offer the

the King two millions and a half, that they might not have it in their parts,

Yet the cruelty of this Inquisition did here increase, and many souldiers came into the countrey, that some of the countrey forsook their houses, and resorted towards Freezland, and some did stay at home, and went to meet Duke *Alva*, and welcomed him into the Countrey, and shewed him all the kindnesse they could, but he very shortly took off most of their heads, so that he did so terrifie the inhabitants, that there fled out of the countries more then an hundred thousand householders, besides many that were taken in flying, were taken and hanged, and all these had their goods confiscated to the King.

As the Countrey of Egmond, & the Countrey of Horn, and many of the Countrey as Brussels, 1568.

The Prince of Orange, and the Earle of Bredrod, and five Earles, eight Lords, and 30 Gentlemen, and they had some five thousand of Souldiers being in Freezland, but were most over-throwne by the Duke of *Alva* his forces, so that they were driven to Embden land, and there prepared themselves to the sea.

Now the Duke of *Alva* did command all the inhabitants to pay the hundreth peny of all their goods, and of all that was bought and sold; the which some of the States did yeeld unto: And then he commanded them to pay the twentieth peny: and then he commanded the tenth peny of all things that were bought and sold, so often as they should be sold. Some of the States did make their humble petition to the Duke, and to the Princes, shewing them that it would drive all trading out of the land. The Duke of *Alva* told them that he would have it, though it did ruinate all the land; but if he saw them to doe their best to pay it, he would deale favourably with them. But he said that it was against the Kings honour if they should not pay it, seeing it was his pleasure to require it. And now did the Inquisition imprison and execute many of the richer sort, as well Papists as of the reformed Church: and if they were rich there was no escaping for them. And whosoever was found to have any hand in way of suit and petition to have the tenth peny to be remitted, they were adjudged to have committed high treason against God and the King; and all these must forreife life and goods to the king, and not any of their children to enjoy one peny worth of the same: but (poore Orphanes) they must begge their

All the prisoners were killed, inasmuch as they were forced to prepare more, and killed them also.

bread. And some that had been buried certaine months, they caused them to be digged up, and hanged on the gallows, and some to be burned, because they had not the sacrament, and confessed before their death; but it was because he would confiscate their goods to the king: yea when these insatiable gold-thirsty and blood-thirsty wretches wanted colour to cover their injustice and cruelty, they had their officious imps (false witnesses) suborned by *Iesabel*, to get *Naboths* vineyard; witnesse *Martin Huston*, who was one of the Inquisitors Clarkes, and (being committed to prison) did acknowledge that hee had made many false testimonies against sundry rich persons, some whereof were of the reformed Church. Here might fitly be brought in the hundred Marchants of *Granado*, who were of the Romane Religion, and were never other; what pretence had he to cause them to bee murdered all in one night, and then presently to command all their goods to be brought to his treasure or Exchequer, whose estate was worth more then 28 hundred thousand pound sterling? Now as this tyrant was a devourer and destroyer of the liues of men, so did hee presume to usurpe further not onely upon civil ordinances, but upon the things of God; so that those that were married in the reformed Church, he forced to be married againe: and if they were rich, hee took them from their husbands, and gaue them to his souldiers to make prize of them. Those that were baptized in the reformed Church, hee compelled to be baptized againe, contrary to Gods word, and to the decree of the ancient councils, so that intolerable were the burthens this cruel *Pharoh* layd, so excessive was his cruelty, that he filled all places with blood, *blood touching blood*, as the Prophet speaks. For in smal townes hee executed 50, and in great townes 100, and 300 or 400. And in places as men travelled from one towne to another, they might see many that his souldiers had hung up in trees to death, and some were worth 80 thousand guldens, and some lesse: yea this tyrant did confiscate so much lands and goods, as by his account sent into Spain, did amount yearly to 8 tun of many sterling, besides the many thousands that he and his souldiers had. All the money that he did exact out of this land in 6 yeares, did amount to more then 50 millions of gold. And if any were knowne to haue any thing that did belong to any that were put to death,

death, and had not brought it to the knowledge of the Inquisition, they did loose both life and goods: yea the 16 of February 1566 he gaue sentence in his court at *Madrid*, that they were all traitors against God and himselfe. At *Vtrecht* he beheaded a widow that was 84 yeares old, because she had before lodged a preacher one night, whose living was worth foure thousand guldens yearly. And at *Mastricht* a father for lodging his son that he had nascene in a long time, that was fled for religion, was put to death. And at that place there was one put to death for giving a widow a peck of corn for an almes, whose husband this bloody court had put to death. And many women were put to death, because they received their husbands in the night that were fled for religion: yea they haue killed women great with child, and tipped up their bellies, and taken out the child, and killed it: and some they haue fleyed alive, and covered drummes heads with their skins, and some they haue ryed to a post, and made a small fire round about them, and so roasted them to death.

At *Naerden* they received the Spaniards friendly into the towne, who promised them both their liues and goods: and as soone as they came in, they commanded them to come to the State house without their Armes, the which they did, and the Spaniards gaue fire upon them and murdered them all: and then they ran about in the towne, and ravished the women, and after killed them and fired the towne. The yong children that lay in the cradles, they quartered them, and took them upon their pikes, and sorwent up and downe the towne, rejoycing in their crueltie.

Such savage cruelty is scarcely to be found in any History: what Christian heart can hear it, and not be affected with deep sorrow, yet behold some monsters herein haue been found, that haue been so farr from humanity herein, (for he that hath humanity in him will commiserate others calamities) that they haue applauded it, as if he had in all these outrages done God good service. Amongst the rest, I shall content my selfe at present, but to name the holy Father the Pope, and one of his chiefesonnes in this businesse. The Pope sends his Legate to commend these so rare exploits, and calls this cruell Duke *Alva* his beloved son: sends him a costly sword, the hilts wherof were of gold, and a har wrought with gold, and beset with eish and costly stones, thanking him for

his good service in maintaining the Romish Religion; and subverting of hereticks. Howbeit that his chiefest son I mentioned (exceeding this man of sin, in the sin of cruelty, as if he would verifie himselfe to be ten fold more the child of Satay, then his father the Pope.) thinks not so well of it, his name is *Vergas*, the President of this bloody Inquisition; for going shortly after into Spain; he told the King, that he and Duke *Alva*, did make all in the *Netherlands*, by shewing so much mercy to those people.

Concerning this Duke *Alva*, of whose outrage and cruelty so many haue felt, and perfidious dealing which many haue found by lamentable experience, whereby may easily appeare of what stamp his excessiue mercies are, even such as the Wiseman speaks of, *Prov. 11:16, the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.* In which he prides

These words he spake at a banquet, as he sat at the Table, enjoying he had done the King so good service. himselfe; boasting he had slaughtered eighteen thousand and six hundred, in form of justice, in six yeares times, and ten times to many he and his Souldiers murdered otherwaies. And many more would he doubtlesse haue murdered, had not the Lord restrained and limited him; for his desire herein was as hell, that cannot be satisfied. Witnesseth the purpose of his proceeding against the Magistrates of *Brussels*, because they did not collect the tenth penny so as be desired. He sware that he would haue it, and before he would let it fall or remit it, the Sunne and Moone should leave their shining, so he went to *Brussels*, and commanded the executioner to prepare ladders and ropes to hang up that night in their doores 70 of the citizens, and gaue them his warrant in writing, what they should be.

Ann 1573 April. 1. But God in his providence prevented this his cruel purpose, in that there came newes that the Graue of Mark had taken in the Brill; so the tyrant did not goe forward with his bloody enterprises.

I have slained but 4 or 5 towns, but there were scarce any town escaped their cruel pillaging, except they had bribed their Commanders with exceeding largesse. Thus having given you a taste of some of those many things I haue observed concerning the intolerable oppression, & worse then salvage cruelty of the Spaniards, exercised upon the people, which they endured and laboured under the space of sixteen yeares, I will now leaue these cruel tyrants to the Lord for judgment, and address my selfe to speak somewhat further concerning this Earle of Marke, who had those Gentlemen with him that fled. Before this hee had layne with his shipping in England, but the King of Spaine sending his Embassadour to our Queen (who was then in place with him)

To desire her that she would not suffer his subjects to haue their
 harbour in her land, and that she would not giue them or suffer them
 to haue any reliefe whereby they should make head against him: and
 hereupon the Queene sent and commanded them out of her har-
 bour; and she commanded that they should not be suffered to haue
 any provision in her coasts, so that now they had no other meanes
 but onely God, who did in his mercie provide for them better then
 they expected. For they were purposed to haue gone for the Tassel,
 and to haue taken some towne about that part; but when they came
 neere that part, they had the wind contrary that they could not come
 there, so they went for the Ma se, and came with their ships before
 the Brill, and there they went presently and tooke it; yet the Duke
 of Alva had his forces in the towne, neere so many as they were,
 whom they presently killed and chased out of the towne, and out of
 the land. The Prince of Orange being in France, and hearing what
 had happened, he sent them souldiers with as much speed as could
 be out of France. And within one moneth after Duke Alva sent cer-
 taine companies to Vlissing to keep that place strong for himselfe,
 and many of the commanders were come into the towne: So the
 Magistrates commanded the citizens to come presently upon the
 Statehouse, so they told them they must lodge the Spaniards in their
 houses; and they knowing how they had used the citizens in all pla-
 ces where they came, they told the magistrates they would not haue
 the Spaniards in their towne. The Magistrates asked them which of
 them it was that did refuse to receiue them. They sayd, All of them.
 So the Magistrates seeing them so earnest against the Spaniards, they
 joyntly tooke their Armes, and killed and took prisoners all them
 that were in the town, and with their Ordenance they shot at his ships
 where the Spaniards were, and they made away. And of those that
 were take, there were the names of about 80 that they had in writing
 from Duke Alva that dwelt in the land, that they should put to death.
 So those of the Brill sent their souldiers with speed to help them. And
 shortly the Prince of Orange came with forces and defended them;
 and some other townes seeing the crueltie of the Spaniards, were the chief
 forsooke the Spaniard, and joined with them, and took the Prince
 of Orange to be their Protector, yet the States notwithstanding did
 remain in obedience to the King some seven yeares after.

Again it is further worthy to be noted, that these Provinces did three times send to the King their Noblemen, but could obtain no mercy, and many more times they went to the Princeesse of Parma, and made their humble petition for redresse of their oppression, but could not obtain any favour, then they made friends to the renowned Queen of England, and to the Princes of Germany, and to the Emperour, who did earnestly enreat by their Embassadors for them. The King of Spain answered their Embassadors with these words; he bade them tell their Masters, *That they should meddle with their own subjects, and not with his, for he knew well enough how to rule his subjects without their counsel.* Now when our Queenes Majesty found his unreasonable and cruelty, then and not before, she assisted them with Armes.

Ann. 1575.

Marplem in
his Chronicle
an. 1567

His own son Prince Charles did intreat for them, that it would please him to let them have their Laws and Priviledges, and that they might not be so oppressed; and withall he told his father that those Countries did belong to him, and that they were given him at his Baptism, for the which his father sent him to prison, and he never came out again. If the Lord would not have forgot what Amalek did, long after, for smiting the weakest and hindmost of his people, how may we in equity forget the infinite murthers, and spoiles, this cruel Tyrant hath executed where-ever he hath prevailed? And who can forget in special that blow is attempt against our selues, in the year 1588.

If I should trace this Tyrant from place to place, I should runne in infinitum, having made the name of Christianity hateful, by his cruelty, amongst the Heathens that know not God further then the light of nature; for it is confessed by the Spaniards themselves, that some of the cheife of the Indians, who were to be burnt to death, being told of heaven and hel, they asked whether the Spaniards went when they dyed? It was answered to heaven, *Oh then sayd they, we will never come there, for we wil never come where the Spaniards are.* But not to run so far, I wil rest content to keep me within the bounds I chiefly intended concerning these Countries. When the Citizens of Leyden were in great extremity, by reason of a long siege, the Spaniards proffering conditions of peace, if so be they would yeeld up the Citie and themselves to them, they returned answer, *Yes while they*

They were
exhorred by a
Popish Priest
so much, that
after this life,
there was no
place for joy,
and no other
of comfort.

had

Had a right hand to hold the sword, or a left to eat; but if they should be driven to fall into their hands, they would rather burn the Citie and drown themselves, then to submit to them, of whose perfidiousness they had had so lamentable experience: and when some of the Citizens pressed a yeelding, in respect of the extremity of famine, a Burgermaster, called *Peter Adrianson* said; *Loving friends, I confesse the famine is great, and that some doe die for want of food: yet rather let us agree to eat up one another, as it shall fall by lot, begin with me first, and divide me amongst you.*

At *Antwerpe*, the Spaniards by the appointment of their Governour did come into the Citie in battel order, and marched up and down their streets, and shot into their houses, and made a tumultuous noise, as if they had been so many devils, for one day and two nights, and took the keyes from the Magistrates, and set watch at the Ports; whereby they put the Citizens in so great fear, that many women with child fell in travel, and some dyed with feare: and they went by 12 or 20, into the best houses, and commanded them to prepare them the best cheere, as boyled and rost, and other dainty dishes, as they list to call for; and besides beer, they would have at least two sorts of wine. And all the chiefeest Citizens houses had at least ten of these guests. And they all cryed out for mony, and said that they would have 15 moneths pay, before they went out of the Citie, of them; and the Magistrates told them that they would procure them in cloth, and apparel, and mony the summe; but they all cryed out for mony, and that mony they would have before they went away: so at the last, the Magistrats got the mony, which did amount to 400 thousand Guldens. And the charge they were at, which these companions did cost the Citizens, was 600 pound sterling the day, and thus they were oppressed with them 18 dates, in which time they had made them all rich suites, some of sattin and velvet, and some of cloth of gold: and one of them had a cushion of velvet, with these words in letters of gold. *I am the Dutchmans Bride-well Master.* And thus they got rid of them for the present. And about two yeares after they came again, and then they used the Citizens much more cruelly, for these devils did bring straw, and set on fire, and put it into the houses, whereby they set nine rich streets on fire, and burnt them with many rich and costly goods,

They did this as well to the Spirituality as to the Temporality, no sort excepted.

They did offer them 400 parts in money, and the third in cloth, but they cryed all for mony.

I doe make but a short relation of some of the cruelties they did against this Citie, yet there stands in the Chronicle, one quire of paper of their first study.

That they are now and have been this 30 year more quiet, I easily yield it. But why? not that they have changed their former nature, for they still hold the former principles of the Council of Trent, but being more subtil, and finding their Kingdom is more weakened, they dare not so presumptuously.

goods, and killed the Citizens of all their rich and costly jewels, and silver-workes, with their money, and three dayes did they torment the inhabitants for money: and in this time there was murdered of the citizens about foure thousand. The money they took at that time is reckoned for more then 40 tun of gold, beside the Jewels and the losse they had by fire, was as much as the rest. And thus was the best citie of Marchants in Europe ruined.

At *Risell* there was a Spaniard would force a rich woman to have the use of her body, and the woman cried out for helpe, and her husband came, and two of his neighbours to help his wife, and they thrust the Spaniard away, and he ran into the street and cried *Spagnea, Spagnea*, and there came many Spanish Souldiers about him, and they rushed into the house, and took the man and his neighbours, and carried them before the magistrates on the towne-house where they were assembled, and there before them he complained of them to be rebelles, and stirrers up of up-rores, and told the magistrates that if they did not presently put them to death, they would burne their towne, and execute them themselves, whereupon they durst do no otherwise, but hanged two, and whipped the other.

Divers things being manifested of the Spaniards cruelty, I will adde one instance of their trechery, & that of a famous person to his neereft familiars; yea when he pretended sweetest familiaritie and friendship. Pope *Alexander* the 6. a Spaniard by birth, invited divers Nobles and Cardinals to a banquet, with a purpose to poyson them all. The meekest instrument he made choyce of to effect this, was a Spaniard, one *Caspar Burgla*, his sworn servant. The Pope shewed himselfe wonderfull pleasant to avoyd suspition, and drank a carouse to them all; willing that his trusty servant to fill from such a bottell he knew well: which he did very effectually to the Pope himselfe as well as to the rest. After the company was departed, the Pope perceiving by an alteration in himselfe, what was done, and that he must die now also, layd to *Burgla*, This is a right Spanish trick. It is written of them that they are so expert in these exploits, that if *Judas* himselfe were alive, he might goe to them to Schoole.

I doe beseech the Lord to shew mercy to my native Country, that they may never come under the government of the Spaniards, and give them heart to repent of their transgressions, and that they may sincerely embrace the Gospel of Iesus Christ, to their endlesse comfort, Amen.

Yours to command in all service, for the advancement of the truth of Iesus Christ.

